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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 714
By Beavers

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the Mt. Juliet High School Lady Bears on winning the 2001-2002 TSSAA District 9-AAA Championship.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those gifted student-athletes who, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to the State of Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors of this state; and

WHEREAS, the girls' basketball team at Mt. Juliet High School is comprised of such estimable Tennesseans who won the 2001-2002 TSSAA District 9-AAA Championship; and

WHEREAS, through diligence, dedication, and hard work, they maximized their considerable talents and reached the pinnacle of high school athletics; and

WHEREAS, on the way to their championship, the Lady Bears compiled an impressive record of twelve wins against only two losses in district play; and

WHEREAS, the championship marked the triumphal conclusion of a stalwart effort that began many months ago with the team's intense conditioning and practices; and

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WHEREAS, this year's Lady Bears have ensured that they will forever be remembered as one of the great teams to grace the basketball court of Mt. Juliet High School; and

WHEREAS, Senior Courtney McFarlin averaged twenty-two points per game, shot 58% from the field and 83% from the foul line, and was named District 9-AAA Most Valuable Player; and

WHEREAS, Senior Keisha Tunstill, the team's smallest player and point guard, remarkably finished second on the squad in rebounds and earned All-District recognition; and

WHEREAS, Senior Rebecca Vantrease, an aggressive player, started for much of the season and had a record ten assists against Hunters Lane Comprehensive High School; and

WHEREAS, Senior Rachel Day provided outstanding leadership every day, both on and off the court; and

WHEREAS, Senior Denina Lockridge could always be counted on by her team when they met hard times; and

WHEREAS, Junior Lauren Hudson provided a formidable long-range offensive threat by hitting 46% of her three-point shots; and

WHEREAS, Sophomore Christy Welch averaged eleven points per game, connected on an impressive 63% of her field goal attempts and 76% of her free throws, and earned All-District recognition; and

WHEREAS, Sophomores Crystal Johnson and Kristian Ray were well-known among their teammates for their stalwart loyalty and unsurpassed work ethics; and

WHEREAS, Freshman Holly Hudson combined a deadly outside shooting touch with considerable basketball savvy to make great contributions to the team; and

WHEREAS, Freshman Emily Knox's athleticism and toughness were key factors in the team's success; and

WHEREAS, Freshmen Star Gillespie and Lindsey Stewart displayed great promise for future seasons; and

WHEREAS, the team was ably guided by highly regarded Head Coach Chris Fryer, who was selected as District 9-AAA Coach of the Year; and

WHEREAS, he received invaluable support from Assistant Coach John Simms, who contributed experienced wisdom and leadership, and from Assistant Coach Chuck Groover, whose organizational skills are unparalleled; and

WHEREAS, the coaches helped precipitate the team's unrivalled success by sharing their deep love and great knowledge of the sport; and

WHEREAS, Manager Nicole Welch assisted in the championship effort by tirelessly filming games and organizing the team equipment; and

WHEREAS, the Lady Bears epitomize all that is good in today's student-athlete, as they have achieved the highest level of success in sport, while evidencing the most circumspect character both on and off the court; and

WHEREAS, the dedication, determination, work ethic, and talent of this group of young student-athletes not only made possible a championship basketball season, but also surely bode well for their success in every future endeavor; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud the 2002 Mt. Juliet High School Lady Bears for their success on the court and for serving as a fine example of the high quality of Tennessee's youth; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we join the administration, faculty, staff, students, and fans of Mt. Juliet High School in celebrating the Lady Bears' 2001-2002 TSSAA District 9-AAA Basketball Championship and honor and commend the talented ladies who achieved this supreme success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we wish them much continued success and happiness in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.